

## **GREATER ROCHESTER IRIS SOCIETY (GRIS)**

an affiliate of the American Iris Society

March 2018 Newsletter

ed. Cara Hutchings

Might spring be coming? With the way the weather has been lately, it's hard to tell! Below freezing one day, in the 60's the next. But hopefully you are getting ready for the spring time, getting tools ready and new garden ideas and areas planned out.

Why not add a Louisiana iris to your garden this year? Our first speaker will be MJ Urist, the leading expert on growing Louisiana iris in the Northeast. She will be discussing the Louisiana Iris Gardens in New Orleans, site of the 2018 AIS National Convention. We have had MJ speak before, and she is always a crowd pleaser! Hope you can come on March 11 at 2 pm to St. John's Episcopal Church Hall, 11 Episcopal Ave. in Honeoye Falls, NY. For more info on her and Louisiana iris, go to [www.louisianairisgardens.com](http://www.louisianairisgardens.com).

Other dates to mark down on your calendar:

**April 22** – A Critical Look at AIS Presentations:

Neil Houghton of the Digital Program for AIS will present some programs from the society to gather input about what is good and what could be made better. Neil will be working to “polish up” these programs. Besides learning more about iris you will be able to offer feedback about how the programs can be made better. Please note the date change. We are moving it to accommodate those members who might be attending the AIS Convention, slated for April 8-14 in New Orleans. The meeting will take place at 2 pm at St. John's Episcopal Church Hall, 11 Episcopal Ave., Honeoye Falls, NY.

**June 3** – GRIS Iris Show, Marketplace Mall

**July 21-22** – Tentative – Iris sale

**September 9** – Meeting at 2pm at St. John's, program TBA

**October 7** – Meeting at 2pm at St. John's, program TBA

We are planning on having Brenda Fox give a presentation on her wonderful gardens that we saw at the annual picnic last year. We just haven't firmed up the date with her yet!

Speaking of picnic, we do need a volunteer for our annual picnic also. Nate and I (okay, to be honest, just me) were thinking of doing it next year, since due to our health issues the past few years, we have neglected our garden. We need a year to get it in shape!

Congratulations to Cora Roller, a winner and runner-up in the AIS 2017 Photo Contest. Her picture of her father and grandmother was a real eye-catcher!

Hope to see you at the meetings!

Cara